

12 APRIL 2025

MINISTER GWARUBE, TO DELIVER KEYNOTE ADDRESS AT CHAMPIONS OF CHANGE GALA DINNER IN CELEBRATION OF AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH

The Minister of Basic Education, Ms Siviwe Gwarube will today, Saturday 12 April deliver the keynote address at the Champions of Change Gala Dinner hosted by *Voyolwethu's Haven* in celebration Autism Month at the Houghton Hotel.

The gala dinner will honour the remarkable efforts of teachers, parents and caregivers who work every day to ensure that autistic learners are given the support, dignity, and opportunity they deserve within the education system.

This annual event hosted by *Voyolwethu's Haven* serves not only to celebrate Autism Awareness Month, but also to highlight the urgent need for sustained and inclusive approaches to education. Minister Gwarube's address will affirm the Department's ongoing commitment to building an education system that is accessible, inclusive, and supportive of all learners, including those with special needs.

The Champions of Change Gala Dinner will recognise the dedication of educators, families, and caregivers of autistic learners. Inclusive education remains a continuous commitment of the 7th Administration which seeks to strengthen collaboration between civil society and the Department of Basic Education to promote accessibility and inclusion across all schools.

Members of the Media are invited to attend and will be offered interview opportunities as follows:

Date: Today, Saturday 12 April 2025

Time: 18h00

Venue: The Houghton Hotel, Lloyds Ellis Ave, Houghton Estate, Johannesburg

ISSUED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF BASIC EDUCATION

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